



# SALEM POLICE DEPARTMENT NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release – October 1, 2010

## SALEM POLICE DEPARTMENT WELCOMES NEW OFFICER

The Salem Police department swore-in a new police officer early this morning and he certainly should be familiar to citizens in the City of Salem.

Officer Dustin Pickle is a 2005 graduate of Salem High School, as well as a 2009 graduate of Virginia Tech. Pickle was an Honor Society member at Salem High and an all-state performer on the 2004 State Championship Football Team. He joined the Tech football squad as a walk-on, but later earned a scholarship as a reserve running back and special teams stalwart for the Hokies. He finished his career with a win in the Orange Bowl and graduated with a degree in Interdisciplinary Studies.

Chief Jeff Dudley welcomed Pickle to the department during the ceremony and presented him with his official police identification. Dustin's Mom and Dad, Mike and Sandra, and several other family members were joined by current ranking officers of the Salem P.D. who showed their support for his hiring.

Pickle has one month of the intensive 19-week basic police training program remaining at the Cardinal Criminal Justice Academy. Upon graduation from the Academy, he will begin 10 weeks of field training at the Salem Police Department.

**Contact:**

Mike Stevens  
City of Salem  
Communications Director  
(540)375-4112 office  
(540)353-2041 cell  
(540)375-3106 fax  
[mstevens@salemva.gov](mailto:mstevens@salemva.gov)